

Again, "what if the police should find out that he took part in the robbery?—what then?" and he almost cried to think that he should be sent to jail. In fact, this fear began to take such a hold on his mind, that for an hour after he lay down he could not sleep; and when he did so, his last thought was, that the police would be after him in the morning.

This is the way of all transgressors. They fear every earthly punishment; they fear man's laws, but pay no heed to God's laws, nor the punishment that awaits the breaking of any one of them. But James Sawyer was to escape punishment this time, the police being unable to find any trace of the robbers.

Next evening, Bill Jones called for James, and the two went for a walk together. Now Bill was James's senior by two years, and was more hardened in crime than his companion. He was the only son of a widow, who labored honestly with her hands to support herself and her idle son. The theatre and billiard saloons were his usual places of resort; and to one of the latter he now conducted James. Here they met several of their companions of the previous night, and they played for money and drink, and had a "high time" of it. Some of them lost nearly all their portion of the spoils of the robbery; among whom was James Sawyer, who had never played billiards before. James here first learned to drink.

Boys, beware of billiard saloons and the theatre! You can get no good at those places. It is in such places that Satan is always ready to ensnare you. Boon companions encourage you to do as they do, and in the transient pleasure and excitement of the moment, you are sure to fall. But resist Satan and he will flee from you; and pray to God to enable you to resist temptation in whatever shape it may appear.

But to return to our tale. About midnight our young hero returned home, half stupid with liquor, and in ill